

HONORING MR. FEDERICO "KIKO"  
ZUNIGA

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 23, 2008*

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Federico "Kiko" Zuniga, of Laredo, Texas, in recognition of his being elected Chairman of the International Federation of Customs Brokers Association (IFCBA) during their biannual conference in Istanbul, Turkey.

The IFCBA is made up of customs broker organizations from 27 countries around the world, and is headquartered in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. Mr. Zuniga has been a member of the IFCBA board since 2003, and for the past 2 years has served as one of the organization's managing directors. In addition to being a part of IFCBA, Mr. Zuniga also is Chairman of the National Customs Brokers and Forwarders Association of America (NCBFAA), and prior to that, served as the president of NCBFAA for 4 years. He is currently a member of the Department Advisory Committee for the commercial Operation of Customs and Border Protection (COAC) and related agencies. Mr. Zuniga has been a licensed customs broker since 1984 and is part owner of F. Zuniga, Inc., the brokerage his father started in Laredo, Texas.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to recognize the hard work and dedication of Mr. Federico "Kiko" Zuniga to the City of Laredo, to his wife, Bobbie, and to his family. He is a truly deserving recipient of the great honor of being elected chairman of the International Federation of Customs Brokers Association.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BOB ETHERIDGE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 23, 2008*

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Madam Speaker, I regret that yesterday I was unavoidably detained and was unable to cast a vote on a number of roll-call votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on H.R. 6685, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide an annual grant to facilitate an iron working training program for Native Americans. I would have voted "yes" on H.R. 1907, the Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program Act, to protect the environmental integrity of undeveloped coastal and estuarine areas. I also would have voted "yes" on H.R. 6853, the Nationwide Mortgage Fraud Task Force Act of 2008, to protect borrowers from unscrupulous actors in the mortgage market.

I ask unanimous consent that my statement be included in the appropriate place in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 23, 2008*

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, on September 22, 2008, I was unavoidably detained and unable to be in the Chamber for a rollcall vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 616, H.R. 6685, legislation to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide an annual grant to facilitate an iron working training program for Native Americans.

INTRODUCTION OF H. CON. RES. 423

**HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 23, 2008*

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, I am proud to introduce this important resolution calling for a comprehensive strategy to address the crisis in Darfur, Sudan, and condemning the ongoing assaults and obstruction by the Khartoum regime. I am joined in this effort by my distinguished colleagues Mr. JACKSON of Illinois and Mr. WOLF of Virginia.

The tragedy of Darfur seems to know no end. After years of violence and death, the genocide in Darfur continues this month with renewed fighting between the Khartoum regime and rebel forces. Once again, entire villages have been decimated, civilians have been slaughtered and thousands have been left homeless.

We cannot turn away from the violence before us. We must continue to raise the issues of Darfur that confront our Nation and the international community. While the violence is perpetrated by those who carry the guns and drop the bombs, we have a responsibility as well.

I am proud of the young people in my own district who have worked to raise awareness of the crisis in Darfur. Zack Harris, now a sophomore at New Trier High School in Winnetka, Illinois, learned about the conflict in Darfur 2 years ago and became determined to help. As the eighth grade student president at Central School in Glencoe, he organized "Dance for Darfur," a fundraiser for the Luol Deng Foundation. Named after the Chicago Bulls player from Sudan, the foundation works with the World Food Program in Darfur to assist with food distribution. The "Dance for Darfur" was the first charity dance ever held at the school, and helped raise awareness at the school and in the community. In total, Zack raised more than \$5,000.

In March of this year, I organized a Model Congress with high school students from all across the 10th District. They held hearings and markups on the Darfur Peace and Security Act to bring an end to the genocide. Together, they amended and passed this comprehensive bill to provide humanitarian aid and adopt strict sanctions, along with other measures, to stop the violence in the region.

Other organizations such as the Chicago Coalition to Save Darfur, the Illinois Holocaust Museum, Congregation Beth Or in Deerfield, IL, and Chicago Tikun are all working to bring awareness to the crisis.

Like these students and activists, Congress and the administration must remain committed to ending the tragedy that is unfolding before our eyes. We must build upon the basic achievements that we have won to ensure the full deployment of the UNAMID mission, full access to humanitarian aid, full implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, and full accountability of the Khartoum government for all its actions.

The U.S. must collaborate with the international community condemn the actions of the Khartoum regime, which have demonstrated the worst that humanity has to offer, and implement a comprehensive strategy to address the crisis in Darfur.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution to bring attention to the plight of the Darfurians and work to find a lasting comprehensive strategy to address this crisis.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 23, 2008*

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, unfortunately last night, September 22, 2008, I was unable to cast my votes on H.R. 6685, H.R. 1907, and H.R. 6853 and wish the RECORD to reflect my intentions had I been able to vote.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 616, on suspending the rules and passing H.R. 6685, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide an annual grant to facilitate an iron working training program for Native Americans, I would have voted "yea."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 617, on suspending the rules and passing H.R. 1907, the Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program Act, I would have voted "yea."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 618, on suspending the rules and passing H.R. 6853, the Nationwide Mortgage Fraud Coordinator Act of 2008, I would have voted "yea."

IN HONOR OF TAIWAN'S NATIONAL  
DAY CELEBRATION

**HON. KENNY MARCHANT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 23, 2008*

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the people of Taiwan on the occasion of their upcoming National Day on October 10.

The Republic of China, Taiwan, is a strong American ally in the Pacific. Although it is a small island nation, it has a growing and progressive economy, providing its citizens with quality education, health, and affordable housing. Also, with its well-educated population, Taiwan is an ideal place for business entrepreneurship. Much of Taiwan's economic prowess is directly attributable to the stability of Taiwan's political system.

A vibrant democracy, Taiwan's history of democratization is an important example of how other countries can change. In a little more than 2 decades, Taiwan has peacefully transformed its political system, from